

# ORWIGSBURG HAPPENINGS

*From Where It All Began*

*... Is Happening Again*

No. 77 – Issued Quarterly

BOROUGH OF ORWIGSBURG, PA

November 2013

*Upcoming Holidays Will Close Bicentennial Year*

## Holly Trail and Festival of Lights Set Dec. 7

*"You are the light of the world." – Matthew 5:14*

Wow, our Bicentennial year is quickly coming to a close! This year has been one of sharing our light with others. Throughout the year we have enjoyed many community events with our friends and family. Let's continue to celebrate the closeness of our town by joining together for our annual Festival of Lights celebration on Saturday, Dec. 7.

Bundle up, prepare to stay, and enjoy the food, song and friendship centering on the celebration of Christ's birth. The Orwigsburg Business & Professional Association, the Orwigsburg Lions Club, area churches, and the Borough join together to welcome the wonderful season of Christmas.

Don't come alone, knock on a neighbor's door and invite them to join you as we enter the Christmas season together, as a community. Although many have generational roots in our community, we also have those new to us; so reach out and show them the light so evident in our small town.

Start the festivities early by participating in the Orwigsburg Library's annual Holly Trail from 12 noon till 4 p.m. Come and see the wonderfully decorated area homes and enjoy refreshments at the Schuylkill Country Club. Call 366-1638 for tickets and more information.

The festivities "on the square" will begin at 4:30 p.m. Listen to the Blue Mountain High School musi-

cians and visit the live Nativity on Center Square. At 5 p.m., everyone will light a candle, say a Christmas prayer and see the lighting of the trees. We'll hear the story of Christmas and sing along with familiar carols.

The camels are coming! The camels are coming! Bring your camera and get your picture taken with the wise men and their camels from the Lighthouse Church. Enjoy a brief skit by the wise men and the singers from Kimmel's Church! It'll be a fun time for all.

Stop by St. John's UCC for their Children's Christmas Crafts in the Fellowship Center.

Awards for the best pictures by Blue Mountain Elementary East students depicting "What Christmas Means to Me" will be given. These pictures will be displayed at M&T Bank for all to see.

***Light up Orwigsburg!***

The lights on our community tree and the trees on the square will be lit on December 7. Will you help make Orwigsburg shine even brighter this holiday season by placing a holiday electric candle on a window sill at your home or business?

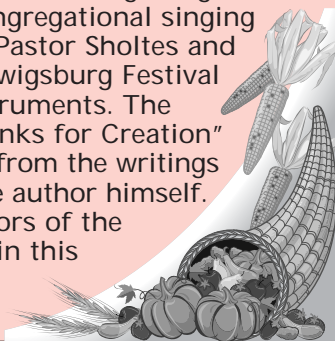
Awards for the best outside decorations on homes in Orwigsburg, Deer Lake, and McKeansburg will also be given. So decorate your home early and enter it in the Christmas Home Decorating Contest. Let's end this Orwigsburg Bicentennial year with the largest participation ever!

*– Continued on page 2*

### ***Let's Give Thanks***

A community Thanksgiving service will be held Sunday, Nov. 17 at 7 p.m. at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 215 North Warren St., Orwigsburg and will include a concert with congregational singing of hymn texts written by Pastor Sholtes and music of praise by the Orwigsburg Festival Choir, handbells, and instruments. The service called "Giving Thanks for Creation" will also include readings from the writings of Scott Weidensaul by the author himself.

All residents and visitors of the region are invited to join in this Thanksgiving community service.



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## Newsletter Particulars

"Orwigsburg Happenings" is a quarterly newsletter of the Borough of Orwigsburg distributed to 1,400 households within the borough.

The newsletter is designed and printed by South Schuylkill Printing & Publishing  
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[www.SouthSchuylkill.net](http://www.SouthSchuylkill.net)

Publication dates for the next three issues are  
February 14, May 9 and August 15, 2014

### News Submittals

Nonprofit and community organizations within the Borough are invited to submit news items for consideration. Written submittals must be received by Borough Manager Michael Lonergan in the borough offices, three weeks prior to the publication date.

### Advertising

Businesses wishing to reach every household in the Borough of Orwigsburg are invited to advertise in future issues. Contact South Schuylkill Printing & Publishing for more information. Call Madelyn @ 366-2791. All advertisements must be received at least three weeks prior to the publication dates. Ad content is subject to approval and acceptance by the Borough of Orwigsburg.



**GORUCK SKOOK** – Thirty individuals completed Goruck Skook, a 12-hour, 20-mile fitness and endurance challenge with monetary pledges to aid the Wounded Warrior Project and the Orwigsburg Memorial Development Taskforce. Presenting a check to Taskforce board member Michael Lonergan are, from left, Chris Stokes, Kristy Touchinsky, Frank McDonough, Chad Korell and Elliot Fink.

## Celebrate the Season

– Continued from page 1

To enter your home in the outdoor decorating contest, call Sheila's Floral Gallery at (570) 366-1070 by November 30. The contest is for the Orwigsburg, Deer Lake, McKeesburg, and township areas. Houses will be viewed prior to December 7 and awards presented at the Orwigsburg Festival of Lights celebration.

## NEW PATIENTS WELCOME

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\*Evenings By Appointment  
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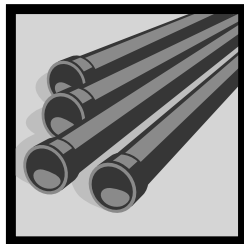
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# Borough Services Update . . . And Events!

## Resident input needed

The Borough is in conversation with UGI regarding bringing natural gas into the Borough. UGI has a natural gas line that stops at W. Market Street and Seton Manor Drive. Before continuing our conversations with UGI about extending the line further into the Borough, we need to determine how many residents and property owners may be interested in converting their properties to natural gas.



If you would be interested in possibly converting to natural gas, contact the Borough office by calling (570) 366-3103. When the number of potential customers are told to UGI, costs could be estimated and those who showed interest will be provided that information.

## Thank you

When Orwigsburg Borough Council reorganizes on January 6, 2014 some familiar faces will not be present at the council table. Mayor Austin Scandiber will be stepping down after 13 years as Mayor. Council President Michele Rudloff will also leave office after eight years and Council Finance Chairman Steve Zimmerman steps aside after 20 years of service.

Each of these three has devoted hundreds, if not thousands, of hours to serving the Borough. Their

efforts are sincerely appreciated. If you have an opportunity, thank Austin, Michele and Steve for their selfless service to the Borough.

## In need of health aids?

Are you or a loved one in need of any of these items to aid in recovery from illness or surgery?

- Wheelchair
- Walker – stationary & folding
- Hospital bed – manual & electric
- Cane – single and multi-legged
- Crutches
- Shower seat
- Bedside commode/bedpan
- Over-toilet seat with handrails
- Temporary tub hand rail
- Recliner chair with auto-lift seat



The Orwigsburg Lions' "Health Equipment Loan Program" provides these items to local residents at no charge as a community service. To arrange a loan, call Larry Dagna at 570-617-6149 and leave a message.

## Food Pantry

Due to the weak economy, the Orwigsburg Area Food Pantry fears its services will be in great demand with a significant increase in need during the holidays and beyond. Current supplies will not meet this demand and an outreach request is being made for all who are able to donate food or money for the pantry to purchase the needed supplies.

Please consider a donation for the food pantry when you grocery shop. The pantry always needs canned fruit, meats, and vegetables, spaghetti sauce and pasta, cereal, soups, and non-perishable holiday foods. Donations can be dropped off at the pantry, housed at St. John's United Church of Christ, 232 E. Market St., Orwigsburg or at the church office. All monetary donations should be sent to Orwigsburg Area Food Pantry c/o St. John's UCC, P.O. Box 216, Orwigsburg, PA 17961

Is there another way to support the Food Pantry? One local business is offering its members the chance for a free month of service. To qualify the member needs to bring a donation of five non-perishable items to the business and a drawing will determine the winner. How can your business help our neighbors in need this holiday season?

– Continued on page 6

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**NEED A CONTRACTOR  
ASK US!**

# Borough Services Update . . . And Events!

– Continued from page 4

## Refuse collection

The Borough contracts with Kreitzer Sanitation for weekly collection of refuse. Curbside collection is every Tuesday for properties on Market Street and north and every Friday for properties south of Market Street.

Month	Tues.	Fri.
Nov.	12	15
Dec.	10	13
Jan.	14	17
Feb.	11	14
March	11	14

## LARGE ITEM PICKUP DATES

A holiday reminder: Friday pickup will be delayed to Saturday, Nov. 30 due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Also, Friday pickups of December 27 and January 3 will be delayed one day to Saturday, Dec. 28 due to the Christmas holiday and Saturday, Jan. 4 due to the New Years Day holiday.

The Borough has adopted the International Property Maintenance Code, which requires refuse kept outdoors to be stored in a leak-proof container with a close-fitting cover.

## Recycling electronics

The Covered Device Recycling Act of 2010 prohibits landfill disposal of desktop computers, laptop

computers, computer monitors, computer peripherals and televisions. If these items are placed on the curb for pickup, Kreitzer Sanitation will not take them. Schuylkill County will accept the items for recycling during its annual fall cleanup at various locations throughout the county.

Residents may also take computers and components to Staples in Cressona. TVs up to 32 inches may be taken to Best Buy stores in Reading, Harrisburg and Wilkes-Barre.

## Large item disposal

One large item may be placed at the curb beside your regular trash once per month.

Regular trash consists of up to six bags of garbage and up to ten bags of leaves. Residents should place trash at the curb any time after 6 p.m. on evenings prior to collection. Because pickup times vary, do not wait until the morning of collection to place garbage.

Construction materials (shingles, drywall, cabinets, insulation, etc.) may not be placed at the curb with your regular trash. You must get a dumpster which can be leased from the borough's trash collector, Kreitzer Sanitation at 366-6360.



– Continued on page 8

## Donate blood. You have it in you.

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To locate a blood drive in your area, visit GiveAPint.org; or for more information on planning a blood drive at your business, school, church or other community organization, contact the Donor Resources Department at 800-223-6667 or info@hscs.org.

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# Borough Services Update . . . And Events!

– Continued from page 6

## Dumpster? You need a permit

Any resident that rents a dumpster and places it on the street is required to fill out a dumpster permit prior to dumpster delivery. Permits are available at the borough office at a cost of \$5. The permit is good for three weeks; another permit is required for additional time. Four (4) reflectors are required on each side of the dumpster, and dumpster wheels must be placed on 3/4" thick pieces of wood so as not to damage the road surface.

## Winter driving reminder

While winter scenes are appealing, winter storms present dangers that cannot be ignored, especially on our roads. For safety's sake:



- If you must drive in bad weather, allow extra time to reach your destination.
- If behind a snowplow, do not pass it unless a passing lane is available.
- If a snowplow is coming toward you, provide as much room as possible for it to get by. If able, dim your lights so the operator can see the street in front of the plow.
- Remember, if driving conditions are dangerous for your vehicle, they are also dangerous for the

snowplow. Be patient and allow plow operators to complete their work.

## Flags

Used flags may be brought to the borough office for proper disposal. Place flags inside the designated mailbox-like container in front of the borough building.



## Request for cones

Cones are available for use from the borough. A cone request form must be filled out and is available from the borough office. Forty-eight hours notice must be given to allow time to get the cones delivered to their location and signs to be made to be placed on the cones.

## Owner/tenant forms

Reminder to all landlords: Orwigsburg Borough Ordinance #396 requires that every owner/lessor of any apartment, house or other type of rental building shall register with the borough every year. If any tenant moves from the dwelling during the year, the owner shall notify the borough within thirty (30) days of said changes. Forms are available at the borough office or from the borough website: [www.orwigsburg.net](http://www.orwigsburg.net)

In addition, landlords living in excess of 20 miles  
– Continued on page 10

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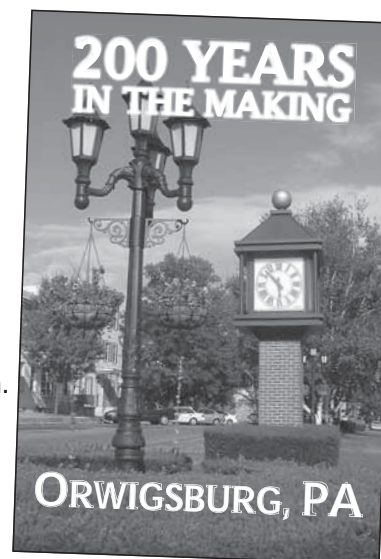
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OFFICE HOURS: Monday thru Thursday - 8 to 5; Friday - 8 to 1

# Borough Services Update . . . And Events!

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from the borough must designate a local manager for the property. This individual must live within 10 miles of the borough.

## **Albright's Woods**

It is time to begin planning that spring or summer 2014 event. The pavilion at Albright's Woods is available for rent for your graduation party, family reunion or other event. Albright's Woods is located on Grove Street in Orwigsburg.



The park has a pavilion with picnic tables and a kitchen available for use. Rental fee for the kitchen is \$75, \$25 of which is a returnable security deposit. If the kitchen is not needed, a \$25 fee is charged. For further details or to make a reservation to use the park in 2014, call the Borough Office at 366-3103.

## **Curb your animal**

Borough Ordinance 299 prohibits pet owners from allowing their pets to defecate on another property without removing the feces from that property. Those violating this ordinance can be fined up to \$600.

Many residents take advantage of the parks and

walking trail and are discouraged by the lack of consideration shown by some pet owners.

## **Meter reading**

Many water meters are read from a remote reading register attached to the building and connected to the meter. Borough Ordinance 310 requires these units be accessible to the borough. Landscaping around your remote reading register needs to be maintained so as to not restrict free access.

## **Utility bills**

As this newsletter is being published, the due date for quarterly utility bills is fast approaching. It is the responsibility of all property owners to pay their bills in full by the due date printed on the invoice.

The borough relies on these payments in order to meet the debt service and operating costs for the water, wastewater and sanitation services. If a bill is not paid after a short grace period, collection efforts will be initiated. If efforts to collect payments are unsuccessful, additional steps could include interruption of service and/or a lien placed on your property. Property owners are responsible for all costs incurred to collect past due obligations.

To avoid these actions and additional costs, property owners must make payment arrangements with the borough. Have accounts up to date or a payment arrangement in place by then to avoid loss of service.



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## From the Mayor

The end of 2013 will be bitter sweet. I will be completing my 13th and final year of service as your Mayor. It has been a pleasure to sit at the table and serve with council members dedicated to serving the best interests of our residents.



AUSTIN SCANDIBER  
Mayor

Much has been accomplished during my tenure. Borough led improvements include the expansion of the Waste Water Treatment Plant, improvements to our Water Distribution System and Treatment Plant, and the South Liberty Street improvement project.

Our community groups continually amaze me with their dedication and willingness to share their time and effort to improve our quality of life in the borough. The new pavilion at Albrights Woods, the lights at the Memorial Little League field and the construction of Bicentennial Park are just a few projects completed.

Another group of volunteers that I must acknowledge is our outstanding volunteer fire department. These men and women go beyond dedication by using their free time for training to stay abreast of the latest fire safety techniques.

I extend a special thank you to Chief Stan Brozana and our police officers for their efforts to make Orwigsburg a safe place to live and raise a family.

– Austin Scandiber, Mayor



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# Orwigsburg Historical Society

## Join & support your society

Why join the Orwigsburg Historical Society (OHS)? When you join, you become part of a 20-year-old membership family. Membership in OHS provides more than just access to Orwigsburg's (and southern Schuylkill County's) rich history. From substantial benefits, such as free regular admission, discounts,

invitations to members-only events and publications, to "intangible" benefits, such as supporting and sustaining Orwigsburg's legacy, members gain a greater understanding of Orwigsburg's past while connecting to Orwigsburg's future. Make Orwigsburg's history part of your present and experience all YOUR local historical society has to offer.

## 2013-14 Orwigsburg Historical Society Membership Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Membership (Please Check One): ☐ Individual \$20 ☐ Family \$25 ☐ Corporate \$50

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Members receive admission to special programs, reduced admissions to special events, and discounts on museum store purchases and publications!

The Orwigsburg Historical Society has numerous volunteer opportunities. Please indicate areas of interest below.

I am interested in volunteering in the following areas:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Genealogy & Historical Research   | <input type="checkbox"/> Web Site Design & Mastering            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Keeping the Museum Open for Visitors  | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Events                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Guild (Events, Fund Raising, etc.)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Antiques & Architecture                |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> In-House Programs                      |

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## SETON PLACE

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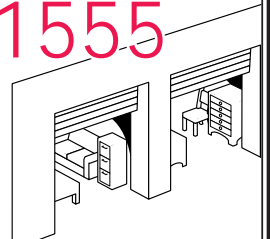
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Dec 14 – Holiday Cirque @ Meyerhoff Symphony Hall.....	\$80
Dec 14 – "War Horse" @ Hershey Theatre .....	\$107
Dec 15 – U.S. Army Band & Chorale Christmas Concert @ Fort Myer .....	\$45
Dec 22 – U.S. Navy Band & Chorale Christmas Concert + Lunch.....	\$61
Dec 28 – New York City Free Day .....	\$37
Dec 31 – Mt. Airy 'New Year's Eve at NOON' <b>ELVIS</b> (\$15 FSP+Lunch).....	\$55
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## State Senator David G. Argall

### Merge School Health Care, Save \$800 Million

In recent weeks, lawmakers in Harrisburg have debated several competing attempts to reform the archaic and unfair school property tax system that has existed in Pennsylvania since the 1830s. This critical issue deserves our undivided attention since it is the only tax that has the power to leave a person homeless.



**SENATOR  
DAVID ARGALL**

One major concern raised by both the supporters and the opponents of property tax elimination is the issue of rapidly rising school district costs, especially health care costs. A recent report by the state's Independent Fiscal Office highlighted the fact that property taxes have grown far faster than the rate of inflation. Rising health insurance costs for school districts pose a major threat to both the education of Pennsylvania students

and the wallets of taxpayers.

To address this growing problem, I am introducing a resolution to require the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to study the practicality and potential cost savings of merging all public school employees into the same group health benefits pack-

age. The study will examine the benefits currently provided to school employees, the cost of current and future benefits, employee contributions, and other factors that could result from merging school employees' health care insurance plans.

In current practice, each of the state's 500 school districts negotiates and purchases their own health insurance package. Some of those districts cooperate with other districts, while others do not. Since larger groups are afforded better health insurance rates, covering all school employees under a single state-wide plan or several large regional plans would allow every school district to leverage the considerable negotiating power of an exponentially larger group of employees.

A study compiled by the Hay Group in 2004 found that annual savings would be over \$800 million. These efforts were supported by both conservatives and liberals, Republicans and Democrats, school employees and taxpayers. Ultimately, the issue did not move ahead due to opposition from special interest groups.

Every dollar committed to health care costs is another dollar we cannot invest in our children's education and school property tax elimination. In speaking with teachers, taxpayers, and school board members, the prospect of skyrocketing health care costs taking money away from the classroom is among their most serious concerns. If the legislature wants to get serious about meaningful school property tax reform, we need to get serious about the spending. I am hopeful this resolution will be an important step in that process.

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# Single-Stream Recycling

○ *Circled days indicate biweekly curbside recycling*

NOVEMBER 2013						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

DECEMBER 2013						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

JANUARY 2014						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

FEBRUARY 2014						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

Shaded days are trash collection days

Tuesdays – Market Street and north; Fridays – south of Market Street

Large item collection, once per month

Convenient, single-stream curbside recycling is available to residents every two weeks on the designated trash pickup day. Recyclables should be separated from other household trash and placed in the container provided by the Borough and Kreitzer Sanitation, or in a container of the property owner's choice clearly designated for recycling.

Single-stream recycling means items can be co-mingled in one container/recycle bin without the need for separation.

Materials for recycling are collected curbside every two weeks on your designated trash pickup day (see calendar schedule above). Simply place your



recycling bin beside your other trash containers and yard waste.

Use the following guidelines to prepare recyclables for pickup:

- Newspapers and mixed paper should be bundled or placed in a paper or clear plastic bag in order to keep them secure.
- Cardboard should be flattened and bundled.
- Take steps to ensure paper, cardboard and plastic, etc. do not blow around to neighboring properties or streets.
- Glass food and beverage containers are recyclable and include items such as glass soda, beer, wine, liquor, ketchup or juice bottles, and glass food containers. Metal caps and lids should be removed, but labels can remain.

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## Single-Stream Recycling


- Glass items such as mirrors, ceramic cups and plates, crystal, clay flower pots, light bulbs, window glass, drinking glass and heat-resistant ovenware are NOT recycled by glass container plants and should not be mixed in with container glass.
- Aluminum beverage cans should be rinsed and crushed. Steel cans need only be rinsed. Leave labels in place.
- Plastic soda bottles and milk jugs should also be rinsed and crushed.
- Be considerate of the streetscape view in your neighborhood; store your recycling container to the side or back of your property or residence.

After following these instructions, combine all materials in one recycling container and place curbside after 6 p.m. the evening before pickup. Recyclables must be in their special container separate from household trash because a separate collection truck is used.


Given the convenience of single-stream recycling, the number of occupants in your household, and the volume collected for recycling, residents may find the need for a smaller or larger container. The borough has two sizes available.

Contact the Borough Office at 366-3103 during phone office hours 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday to arrange for a different recycling container or for additional information.

### Single-Stream Recycling



#### Yes



Plastic Containers  
#1 through #7  
(No Styrofoam)




Aluminum, Steel &  
Tin Containers



Glass Bottles &  
Containers



Newspapers  
\*bundle or place  
in paper bag



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#### No



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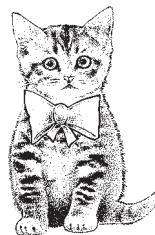


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## Message from the Council President

As many of you know, I announced earlier this year that I would be serving out the remainder of my term and that I would not serve after 2013. This was a difficult decision, as I truly enjoy serving on Orwigsburg Borough Council and find serving in representative government one of the most challenging and rewarding tasks anyone can do. However, life happens, and priorities change, and it is time for me to move on so I can focus on raising my daughter, Olivia, and continue to make my family my first priority.



**MICHELE RUDLOFF**  
Council President

Borough council government and services will see many changes in the coming year, with lots of new fresh faces and some returning ones as well. Councilman Steve Zimmerman and Mayor Austin Scandiber both chose not to run for another term, after many years of service. Both of these men have dedicated a lot of time and energy into borough issues and they will be missed. Councilman Barry Berger, who is currently in his first term, will be switching roles, and will be sworn in at the January meeting, as Orwigsburg's new mayor.

While it was not clear at the time of writing this article, the borough will be looking to fill one if not

two borough council seats, of course depending on the outcome of the election. I would encourage anyone interested in borough affairs and moving our town forward to consider serving in this capacity. It's very eye opening, but you will find nothing more rewarding than serving to make your community better.

In addition to new faces in the council chambers, the borough is in the process of hiring new staff as well. In October, we said goodbye to Jesse Weiss, our longtime water and wastewater plant operator. Jesse did an excellent job for the borough, and his dedication and commitment will be missed. We are currently working with the Schuylkill County Municipal Authority in a temporary capacity to help with the day to day operations of our plants until a permanent solution can be addressed. We are very lucky to have staff that worked very closely with Jesse on the operation of both plants and their services will be invaluable during this time of transition.

In October, we also advertised for a new full time police officer, to replace a vacancy that was created when officer Scott Davis resigned. This process involves written tests, agility tests, oral exam, and will hopefully be complete in the new year so a new officer can be added to the ranks. Not to worry, borough residents will continue to receive the best qual-

*- Continued on page 19*

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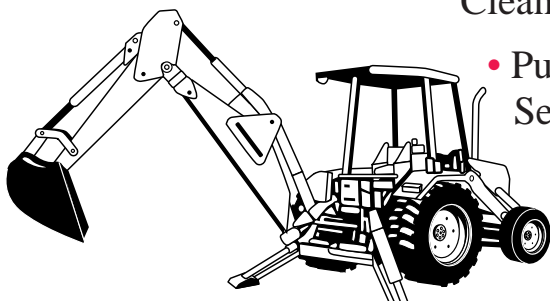
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## Team Orwigsburg

Team Orwigsburg, a faith-based volunteer mission group, is continuing to heal hearts and homes wherever it goes. Team members volunteer in Schuylkill County and travel outside the area every year to a hurricane-torn community where they spend one week meeting victims and working with the local unit of Volunteers in Mission to rebuild homes for those unable to do so themselves. Next year in March, the team will return to Crisfield, Maryland, an area damaged by Hurricane Sandy last year.

The team has also been involved helping other volunteers work on the Orwigsburg Veterans Memorial Community Building located at North Washington

and Grove streets.

Team Orwigsburg meetings are held the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at Salem United Methodist Church on S. Liberty St., Orwigsburg but in upcoming months may alternate at local Orwigsburg area restaurants. Phone (570) 943-2103 for further information about the team and its meeting location. New members of the team, wanting to make a difference in people's lives are welcome at all times.

A legal non-profit organization, Team Orwigsburg accepts donations to continue its mission work. Send to Salem United Methodist Church, 133 S. Liberty St., Orwigsburg earmarked for Team Orwigsburg.

Fundraisers are held throughout the year. The annual soup and bake sale will be held Saturday, Nov. 16 in conjunction with the "Holiday Stop and Shop" at Salem United Methodist Church. This is a great place to find gifts for everyone on your gift-giving list and also take home something yummy for lunch. The sale will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

## Council President

– Continued from page 18

ity police coverage thanks in large part to our current dedicated officers, Chief Stan Brozana, Sergeant John Koury, and officer Brandon Bayer.

In closing, thank you residents of Orwigsburg for your support over the last eight years. I have enjoyed serving on council and I promise I will still be involved, but just in other ways. I wish everyone the best this holiday season and wish you a happy new year.

– Michele Rudloff, Council President

## SPREAD THE WORD

Interested in submitting an article for next quarter's issue of **Orwigsburg Happenings**? We welcome community service and non-profit organization information. Please contact Mike Loneragan at 570-366-3103 or [orwigsburg@comcast.net](mailto:orwigsburg@comcast.net).

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# Orwigsburg Lions Club Update

The Orwigsburg Lions Club again enjoyed a very busy year throughout 2013, providing continued dedication and service to the Orwigsburg community. The 90+ member club headed or participated in many community events and service activities.

The annual Orwigsburg Halloween Parade, held October 23 was again a great success. This year's parade was filled with a spook-tacular array of ghosts and goblins, floats and fire trucks. The streets were lined with cheering kids just waiting for a chance to grab a sweet treat. The 2013 parade featured a new route which took the festivities straight down Warren

Street through the Center Square, made a left on Independence Street and another left onto Wayne, with the parade ending back on Market Street. This new route was designed to alleviate the dangerous right turns onto Market St. and ensure the safety of all parade goers.

Coming up on December 7, the Lions Club, a major contributor to the seasonal Festival of Lights celebration, invites everyone in the community to join in the activities on Center Square. The Lions will be there serving up hot and delicious food as the carolers sing and the community Christmas tree is lighted to kick off the holiday season.

The funds that the Lions Club raises at the events they host or participate in throughout the year are funneled back into the community in a variety of ways. This year, the Orwigsburg Lions have committed to make a substantial donation to the Veterans Memorial Revitalization Project. The Club also uses the funds to support maintenance and improvement projects at Albrights Woods, and support local citizens in need.

If you are interested in becoming an Orwigsburg Lions Club member, or would just like to learn more about the organization, e-mail current club president Nick Bagdonis at [nbagdonis@gmail.com](mailto:nbagdonis@gmail.com). The club welcomes guests and interested residents at its regular meetings held the second and fourth Tuesday of each month.

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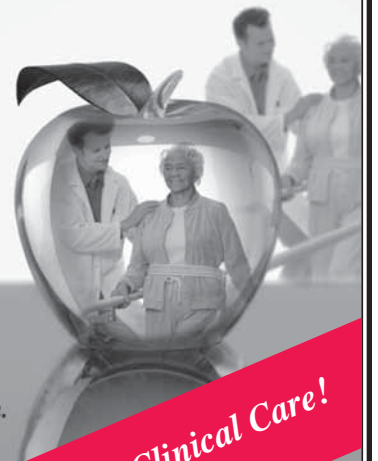
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# Orwigsburg Business and Professional Assoc.

The OBPA – Orwigsburg Business and Professional Association – “Square Time” monthly summer events, in its second season, enjoyed a fine attendance from visitors and residents alike. “Yappy Hour” was once again a hit in May. June’s “Sippin’, Singin’ and Swingin’” featured a private, patio beer garden and plenty of great entertainment. “Wine, Dine and Unwind with the Arts” enjoyed beautiful weather with wine tasting, specialty foods by the area’s fine restaurants, music and displays of local art. In August the Square Time event for all ages was Family Fun Night.

The OBPA’s revitalization committee has raised \$1,800 to assist with the development and improvement of community projects. Square Time events for 2014 will be announced early in January.

Community Heritage Day was also a success, thanks to a great sunny day and 40 vendors that made it to town, great food and wonderful live music – our own Eva Katherine followed by Tim Hill and his group Between Floors.

The OBPA will again be a part of the Festival of Lights seasonal celebration coming up on Saturday, Dec. 7. Visitors and residents from throughout the region are invited to enjoy sights and sounds of the season “on the square.”

Membership in OBPA has increased to 80 members, a substantial increase since our reorganization

in December 2011. The Affordable Care Act (ACA) will be in full swing on January 1, 2014. An overview of the ACA is being planned for our November or December business meeting and a separate seminar will be held to cover the entire act.

Announcements are made on OBPA Facebook and website as well as the Orwigsburg Borough Facebook. The ACA affects all businesses and individuals. The seminar will cover all

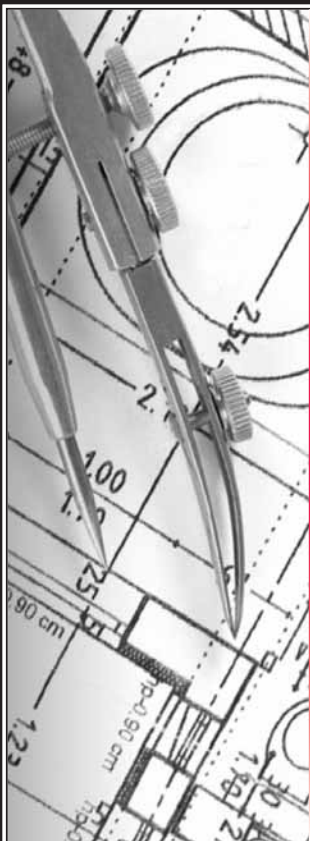
aspects of the act.

## *Façade grant help*

OBPA and Orwigsburg Community Revitalization Committee (OCRC) president Nick Shestok has been working with Schuylkill County’s Champ Holman, deputy secretary of the state Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED). Holman relates the DCED is alive and well with money available for certain projects.

Loans for building façade improvement projects are available and asked that the OCRC provide information for projects to be considered. It is the intent of the OCRC to bring the projects to the community and borough council for review and input.

Interested in becoming a member of the OBPA or the OCRC? Contact membership chair, Jeanine Sproule at (570) 943-2269 or Nick Shestok at (570) 366-6363 or e-mail at [nickshestok@msn.com](mailto:nickshestok@msn.com)



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# Community Memorial Hall Improvements

The Orwigsburg Veterans Memorial Development Taskforce continues to raise funds and oversee the renovations of the Orwigsburg Veterans' Memorial Building. The most recent construction includes improvements to the kitchen and preparation for the roof. The kitchen is being upgraded with a new serving counter and corresponding roll-up door, in addition to new walls to create a mechanical closet and a pantry.

The new metal roof and insulation system to be installed will extend beyond the main roof to enhance the curb appeal and minimize exterior façade improvements; but, most importantly will eliminate the various leaks that have plagued the existing flat roof over the kitchen and entry way (ticket booth area). As previously reported, a \$153,000 grant was received from PA DCED in April 2013 for a new roof and in July 2013 we applied for a \$250,000 CFA grant through DCNR/DCED. We are eagerly waiting to see if we are selected to receive that grant. Preliminary construction has started on the conference room.

The fundraising for the building continues to be multifaceted. The Taskforce hosted the first annual "Derby Day." The day consisted of an all-ages Home

Run Derby event on the Little League field in the morning and a Kentucky Derby themed semi-formal event at the Schuylkill County Club that evening. About 150 people attended the evening event that raised approximately \$35,000 for the Task Force. Community businesses, non-profit organizations and individuals continue to provide the Taskforce with diverse revenue streams. In August a group of local people participated in the Goruck Skook, donating more than \$3,100 to the Memorial project.



The annual Memorial 5k was held on September 7 in conjunction with Orwigsburg Heritage Day. It was a beautiful day and many runners received great prizes – all while raising financial support and awareness for the project.

After a successful return to the Memorial in August, WXWC-4 wrestling will once again be back at the Memorial on January 11. If you missed the first show, you sure don't want to miss this one. Local legend "Snitsky" will again appear on the card and promises another epic battle.

"300 Club" members, committing to a \$1000 contribution all at once or \$333 per year for three years (less than \$1 per day), continue to join the effort to support this project. Friends and residents are invited to view the possible donation levels for "Community Memorial Hall" on the Taskforce website at [www.orwigsburgmemorial.org](http://www.orwigsburgmemorial.org) or on Facebook.

Dave Naydock prints, highlighting the original décor of the Memorial Building and the community members who have utilized it over the last 60 years, are still available for purchase. Contact any member of the task force to secure a painting.

The Orwigsburg Veterans Memorial continues to move forward as an integral part of this community. The taskforce asks for your support to complete this project to better serve our community and honor our veterans.

– Greg Stewart, President  
Veterans' Memorial Development Task Force

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## St. John's United Church of Christ

232 E. Market St., Orwigsburg • 570-366-2255

*Traditional worship for contemporary souls*

Sunday School 9 a.m. • Worship 10 a.m.

Communion is celebrated the first Sunday of every month

DEC. 7 – Nativity display  
in church and activities in  
Fellowship Center

DEC. 15 – Cantata 10 a.m.

DEC. 22  
Children's pageant 10 a.m.

Christmas Eve  
Services at 7 and 11 p.m.

# Orwigsburg Area Free Public Library

Fall into reading and all the seasonal activities at the Orwigsburg Area Free Library. Located at 214 East Independence St. in Orwigsburg, the library's fall-winter-spring hours are Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The library is closed Sundays and will close when inclement weather results in public school cancellation.

A variety of regular events to suit most interests and all ages take place at the library. The Orwigsburg Book Club meets once each month on the third Monday. On November 18, the group will discuss "The Innocent Man" by John Grisham.

Knitters meet every Tuesday at 6 p.m. Join the Mahjongg tile players at 6 p.m. on the first, third, and fifth Wednesdays of each month. The Lego Club meets on the second Wednesday of each month beginning at 6 p.m.

The Teen Scene gets together on the third Thursday each month at 6 p.m. On November 21 the group will decorate a journal. Story hour for children, tots to preschool, is held each Tuesday at 10:30 a.m.

## Upcoming special events

Come join us for a laugh at the Schuylkill Country Club for Comedy Night on Friday, Nov. 8 at 8 p.m.

Tickets are available at the library or by calling the Schuylkill Country Club.

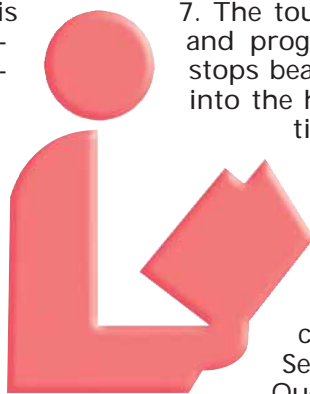
Don't forget to save the first Saturday in December to join the merriment of the Orwigsburg Area Holly Trail as a kickoff to the Festival of Lights on December 7. The tour starts from the library. Get your tickets and program book to locate the local homes and stops beautifully decorated to welcome and get you into the holiday spirit. Stop by the library for additional information on this annual event.

A children's Story and Craft event at the library on Thursday, Nov. 14 will feature "Bears" and their hibernation habits starting at 6 p.m.

What's all the fascination about "smart phones?" Find out everything they can do for you at a special Smartphone Seminar on Tuesday, Nov. 19 at 6 p.m. Questions will be answered.

December activities especially for youngsters will feature crafting holiday cards on Thursday, Dec. 5 at 6 p.m. and an art program on Japanese Anime, Thursday, Dec. 12, beginning at 6 p.m. Possibly the "sweetest" news of all happens on Friday, Dec. 6 with the return of Cupcake Wars beginning at 5 p.m. ... join in the fun as a baker or a taster!

Stop by the Orwigsburg Library to get the updates and learn about other events or check the website: [www.orwigsburglibrary.org](http://www.orwigsburglibrary.org).



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# A Town's Spirit Reflected Through Its Churches

## Zion's Red Church

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome at Zion's Red Church, 1287 Centre Turnpike at Rt. 61 and Brick Hill Road. A praying church, how can we pray for you?

Zion's Red Church is warm and welcoming; a union congregation of Evangelical Lutheran and United Church of Christ denominations. The church offers a traditional style of worship with a creative flair. Sunday worship begins each week at 10:30 a.m. and includes interactive elements plus a children's message. Come as you are.



Alcoholics Anonymous meets every Wednesday night at 7:30 p.m. and Weight Watchers gather Thursday evenings beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Currently, the book "Unbinding Your Heart" guides participants through a 6-week renewal program that includes a daily prayer journal and weekly book. Discussion meetings continue through November 24. This is a good experience for everyone and will enable the church to be even more caring and outgoing ... with God's help through prayer.

A 10:30 a.m. service on November 17 will be followed by a luncheon and a church discussion to discern/design the church mission statement and vision for the future.

An ongoing prayer ministry is busy making prayer squares and quilted shawls. The ministry seeks new creative ways to collect prayer requests from the community.

Special Advent and Christmas services will include the celebration of Holy Communion on December 1, the first Sunday of Advent.

For many people, the holiday season with its trappings and gifts, decorations and meals, and Christmas carols of joy and good will, is a difficult time for those who grieve the loss of a loved one, are lonely, have lost a job, are suffering from illness or the pain of a broken relationship, feel financial stress, or feel anxiety brought on by the hectic holiday rush. On Saturday, Dec. 21 – the longest night of the year when darkness seems to overtake the light – Zion's Red Church offers a Blue Christmas service beginning at 7:30 p.m. This service is for anyone who, for whatever reason, finds it hard to cope with the festive season. There will be gentle music, readings, healing prayer, and a time for quiet reflection. There will be an opportunity to receive Holy Communion and to light a candle in memory of a loved one, or as a sign of hope. Please come and enjoy peaceful worship amid the hectic chaos of the Christmas season.

A Christmas Eve candlelight communion service will be held Tuesday evening, Dec. 24 beginning at 7:30 p.m. when the beauty of the season comes alive to celebrate the Christ Child in our midst. Individuals



**SALEM** United Methodist Church  
Orwigsburg, PA

**Welcome Home**

**133 S. Liberty St. Orwigsburg**

**www.SalemUM.com (570) 366-0201**

**– Sunday at Salem –**

**8:45 a.m. – Traditional**

**10:00 a.m. – Sunday School for all ages**

**10:45 a.m. – Contemporary with  
Children's Church and Nursery**

**6:30 p.m. – SNL Coffeehouse**

## SPECIAL EVENTS

**Nov. 16 – Holiday Stop & Shop 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

**Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve Worship 7 and 9 p.m.**

## St. Paul's Lutheran Church

**215 North Warren Street • Orwigsburg**

**366-2316**

**www.stpaulsorwigsburg.org**

**Minister of Music Beverly Eiche Kriner**

### OFFICE HOURS:

**Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

**SUNDAY WORSHIP – 8 and 10:30 a.m.**

**with Sunday School at 9:15 a.m.**

**Holy Communion each Sunday.**

**Handicap Accessible**

## SPECIAL CHURCH SERVICES

**Sun., Nov. 17 – 7 p.m.**

**Community Thanksgiving Service & Concert**

**Sun., Nov. 24 – 9:30 a.m.**

**Final Service with Pastor Scholtes**

## CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

**5 p.m. • 9 p.m. • 11 p.m.**

## CONCERT SERIES CONTINUES

**Sun., Dec. 22 – 7 p.m.**

**Annual Service of Lessons & Carols**

**Sun., Jan. 26 – 3 p.m. Hill to Hill Brass**

**Sun., Feb. 16 – 4 p.m.**

**A Valentine's Serenade**

**Concerts are free and open to the public.**

**No tickets or registration required**



## A Town's Spirit Reflected Through Its Churches

and families from throughout the surrounding communities are invited to sing praises by candlelight, receive Holy Communion, and journey to the manger together.

Contact the church office at (570) 366-1178 for additional information regarding these special services and other activities at Zion's Red Church.

### **St. Paul's Lutheran**

Located at 215 North Warren St. in Orwigsburg, St. Paul's Lutheran Church welcomes all to worship and to be part of the church family. The church office is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and can be reached by calling (570) 366-2316. Additional information can be obtained on the church website [www.stpaulsorwigsburg.org](http://www.stpaulsorwigsburg.org).

The minister of music is Beverly Eiche Kriner. Sunday worship services are held at both 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. with Sunday school at 9:15 a.m. Holy Communion is celebrated each Sunday. The church is handicapped accessible.

The Rev. Dr. Joseph Scholtes, Jr. will be retiring from his service to the church. Sunday, Nov. 24 – his final service – will be the only one of the day and will begin at 9:30 a.m.



St. Paul's Lutheran Church features a monthly concert as part of its annual series. Concerts are free, but a free-will offering is taken to offset expenses. The public is encouraged to enjoy these musical offerings.

Upcoming concerts will feature the annual Service of Lessons and Carols on Sunday, Dec. 22 beginning at 6 p.m.; Hill to Hill Brass on Sunday, Jan. 26 beginning at 3 p.m.; and a Valentine's Serenade on Sunday, Feb. 16 at 4 p.m. Look for the continuing list of concerts listed in the February issue of *Orwigsburg Happenings*.

Women of the ELCA focus on continuing God's work through Christian learning, action and community awareness. The women hold Bible studies, host informative speakers and coordinate projects. Monthly programs are open to all women of St. Paul's and their guests. Activities are held at the church from 1 to 3 p.m. with the following topics: Cheryl Cresswell will present "What is Care Net of Schuylkill County?" on Tuesday, Nov. 12; and Gwen Wehr will present "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day" with a luncheon on Tuesday, Dec. 9. No meetings are planned January through March but will resume in April.

Other upcoming church activities include the Men of St. Paul's conducting a chili sale in November and will host a Christmas candlelight dinner and carol singing in the Reidler Social Hall on December 8 beginning at 6 p.m.

– Continued on page 26



## **Johns Physical Therapy**

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# A Town's Spirit Reflected Through Its Churches

– Continued from page 25

ning at 5 p.m. Also, the annual Cookie Exchange will be held Saturday, Dec. 14 from 2 to 4 p.m.

Three Christmas Eve services will be held at St. Paul's Lutheran on Tuesday, Dec. 24 beginning at 5, 9 and 11 p.m.

## St. John's UCC

St. John's United Church of Christ, 232 W. Market St., welcomes all to worship on Sundays at 10 a.m. with Holy Communion celebrated the first Sunday of each month. Sunday school, for ages three through 6th grade begins at 9 a.m. and includes Christian education, movies about Biblical stories, music and hand chimes, and snacks.

Many activities are held each month at St. John's with November and December particularly busy. New faces are welcomed with a smile and warm embrace.

A Prayer Shawl Retreat will be held Saturday, Nov. 3 from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Phone 366-2255 to register in advance.

The church Fellowship Center hosts many different groups and activities. The Orwigsburg Senior Citizens meets each Tuesday; a quilting group meets each Monday and Wednesday from 9 a.m. to noon;



and an exercise group gathers on Wednesdays from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Each of these activities are held without charge.

Yoga classes are held on Tuesday evenings until June from 7 to 8:30 p.m. with a nominal fee of \$10 per session. Contact Ed Folk at 943-2066 to register.

The Orwigsburg Area Food Pantry is housed in St. John's with approximately 90 needy families served plus additional families helped over the holidays. Contact the church office at 366-2255 to donate canned goods, cereal, pastas or paper products; or feel free to drop off donations at the Sherman Street side entrance from 12 to 1 p.m. any Tuesday. Volunteers are always needed to help pack (any age) and distribute (adults only) boxes of food on a monthly basis.

Team Orwigsburg, a local faith-based mission group, receives support from all area churches. Fundraising events are held throughout the year enabling the team to help locally and to travel to hurricane-torn communities to heal hearts and homes each year. New faces are always welcome to join the team. Phone 943-2103 for more information. A soup/bake sale will be held on Saturday, Nov. 16 from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Salem United Methodist Church, 133 S. Liberty St., in conjunction with the annual Holiday Stop and Shop.

December activities at St. John's include the annual Nativity display on Saturday, Dec. 7 showing Nativity collections from around the world. That same

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on life's journey, you are welcome at

## ZION'S RED CHURCH

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**EVERY WEEK:** Adult Bible Study & Sunday School for all ages at 9:15 a.m. Worship at 10:30 a.m. includes interactive elements and children's messages.

**Holy Communion** on December 1 – 1st Sunday of Advent.

**Alcoholics Anonymous** every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

**Weight Watchers** every Thursday night at 5:30 p.m.

**BLUE CHRISTMAS CASUAL COMMUNION SERVICE**  
DEC. 21 at 7:30 p.m.

**CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION**  
DEC. 24 at 7:30 p.m.

*See our article for more details!*



**Join Us!**

179 Pine Creek Drive  
Orwigsburg, PA  
Phone: 570.943.2759  
[www.kimmelschurch.org](http://www.kimmelschurch.org)

**Thanksgiving Eve Service**  
November 27 - 6:30 pm

**Kimmels Stop on the Holly Trail**  
December 7 - noon to 4 pm

**Christmas Eve Service**  
December 24 - 6:30 pm

**Sweetheart Banquet**  
Featuring 'The Wacky Waiter'  
February 16, Doors Open @ 5:00 pm

**Deer Hunters' Banquet**  
Landingville Fire Company Hall  
March 1, Doors Open @ 6:00 pm



# A Town's Spirit Reflected Through Its Churches

evening will feature activities in the Fellowship Center in conjunction with the town's Festival of Lights celebration. These events are sure to get you into the Christmas spirit. The church choir will present its annual Christmas cantata during worship on Sunday, Dec. 15. The children's pageant will be enjoyed December 22. Christmas Eve services will be held at both 7 p.m. and 11 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 24.

St. John's is committed to making the community a vital part of the reasons to enjoy living, working and serving God in Schuylkill County. Join us any Sunday in "traditional worship for contemporary souls."

## Salem United Methodist Church

Kick off the Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas season at Salem Church on Saturday, Nov. 16 with the 8th annual Holiday Stop and Shop. Sixteen vendors will display and feature gift items for just about everyone on your Christmas shopping list. Team Orwigsburg will offer baked goods and soup. The sale starts at 8:30 a.m. and will continue to 1 p.m.

Salem Church will be open during the downtown Festival of Lights celebration on Saturday, Dec. 7. The public is invited to see the church decorated for the holidays and to enjoy hot coffee and fresh cookies.

The sounds of Christmas music will ring out on Sunday, Dec. 15 at both morning worship times with Salem's God Squad ringing in the holiday. Come and enjoy the bells. On Sunday, Dec. 22, the Senior Choir

will present special Christmas music at the 8:45 a.m. service and the children will present their version of Christmas at 10:45 a.m.

Looking for a church to celebrate Christmas Eve? We have two special worship times at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Both services will have lighting of candles to show the Light of Christ coming into the darkness of the night. The earlier time is a special family worship service while the later will be a traditional worship time.

Upcoming community events will include a spaghetti dinner from 4 to 7 p.m. on November 9 and a Family Movie Night at 5:30 p.m. on December 13. A Cookie Exchange will be featured at the movie night event.

All are invited to be part of Salem Church activities and services. The website [www.SalemUM.com](http://www.SalemUM.com) provides additional information.

Weekly activities offer numerous small group opportunities including SUMO JV & Varsity Youth Fellowship, women's small group book studies; Bible study with the pastor; United Methodist Women; Team Orwigsburg adult/youth missions; scrapbooking and rubber stamping. Music ministry opportunities include senior and junior choirs, handbell choir, and Praise Singers.



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## 2013 Remaining Holiday Schedule

*Orwigsburg Borough Offices will be closed  
the following days*

Thursday – November 28th (Thanksgiving)

Friday – November 29th

Tuesday – December 24th

Wednesday – December 25th (Christmas)

Wednesday – January 1st (New Year's)

We wish you and your families a very safe and  
happy holiday season and look forward to a  
great new year of serving you.

